

To: Ostrander, David[Ostrander.David@epa.gov]
From: StClair, Christie
Sent: Tue 9/22/2015 10:03:45 PM
Subject: Re: Winter Discharge Treatment

Thanks David.

Christie St. Clair

Office of Public Affairs

Environmental Protection Agency

o: 202-564-2880

m: 202-768-5780

On Sep 22, 2015, at 4:55 PM, "Ostrander, David" <Ostrander.David@epa.gov> wrote:

Christie, I will be available for questions tomorrow.

Also, per the request from Mathy to consult with the State of Colorado, I had a conversation with Monica Sheets and Doug Jamison, supervisors from CDPHE. We discussed EPA's plan and they were ok with water treatment over the winter. They did request that we provide them with a message as to why we were doing this and what are EPA's long term plans for the GKM. They also suggested we evaluate through monitoring how the system works and learn anything we can that will help in designing a permanent treatment plant should that become a decision in the future. I shared this with Shaun.

Thanks

From: StClair, Christie
Sent: Tuesday, September 22, 2015 2:43 PM
To: Deitz, Randy

Cc: Purchia, Liz; Distefano, Nichole; McGrath, Shaun; Ostrander, David; Braun, Richard; Sandoval, Joni; Way, Steven; Mills, Bethany; Reynolds, Thomas; Ackerman, Joyce; Vaught, Laura
Subject: Re: Winter Discharge Treatment

Per Liz, this release will go tomorrow at noon eastern. EOC is reviewing and I will send the final to this group.

I'd like to see a plan of notifications - who is contacting whom?

Also, who in IC and R8 will be available for questions tomorrow?

Christie

Christie St. Clair

Office of Public Affairs

Environmental Protection Agency

o: 202-564-2880

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On Sep 22, 2015, at 4:36 PM, "Deitz, Randy" <Deitz.Randy@epa.gov> wrote:

I am willing to be available to answer questions but the questions I would expect – how much will it cost, how is it being paid for, how long will it operate etc, I don't have answers for. I would defer to Dana Stalcup or our Incident Command/R-8 colleagues to answer those type of questions. And very importantly, BEFORE any release goes out, we MUST notify congressional members, and state, tribal, and local officials.

Randy Deitz

Attorney Advisor

Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response

(202) 566-0197

From: StClair, Christie

Sent: Tuesday, September 22, 2015 4:04 PM

To: Purchia, Liz

Cc: Distefano, Nichole; McGrath, Shaun; Ostrander, David; Braun, Richard; Sandoval, Joni; Way, Steven; Mills, Bethany; Reynolds, Thomas; Ackerman, Joyce; Vaught, Laura; Deitz, Randy

Subject: Re: Winter Discharge Treatment

Sounds good.

Looping Randy - Randy, are you and Dana prepared to take media inquiries this evening?

David and Shaun, will you be available into the evening to take media questions on this?

Christie

Christie St. Clair

Office of Public Affairs

Environmental Protection Agency

o: 202-564-2880

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On Sep 22, 2015, at 3:59 PM, "Purchia, Liz" <Purchia.Liz@epa.gov> wrote:

My edits to the release are below. I'd prefer we get this out now if notifications can be done in the next hour.

Do we need to add the name of the subcontractor?

Alexco Environmental Group (US) Inc.

DRAFT

EPA Announces Gold King Mine Water Treatment System for Winter 2015-16

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced today that a portable, temporary treatment system will be located in Gladstone, CO (elevation 10,500ft) to continue treating water discharged from the Gold King Mine during winter 2015-16. This system will replace temporary settling ponds constructed by the EPA in August 2015. The transition to the portable treatment system is necessary as local winter temperatures can reach -20F, making it unsafe to manually treat water at the mine site. The schedule calls for the treatment system to be operational by October 14. EPA's contractor, ER LLC, awarded a subcontract today to [NAME OF SUBCONTRACTOR] to complete the work.

This system will treat the approximately 550 gallons per minute (gpm) of water that continue to flow from the mine, including the discharges related to ongoing work in the mine to stabilize conditions. The system is designed to handle up to 1,200 gpm. The objective of the treatment system is to neutralize the mine discharge and remove solids and

metals. Although the Gold king Mine discharge is just one of many into Cement Creek, the treatment will remove a portion of the metal loading to Cement Creek. The EPA continues to evaluate data to determine the impact of the Gold King Mine on water quality.

Additional information about EPA's Gold King Mine response:
www.epa.gov/goldkingmine

From: StClair, Christie
Sent: Tuesday, September 22, 2015 3:55 PM
To: Distefano, Nichole
Cc: McGrath, Shaun; Ostrander, David; Purchia, Liz; Braun, Richard; Sandoval, Joni; Way, Steven; Mills, Bethany; Reynolds, Thomas; Ackerman, Joyce; Vaught, Laura
Subject: Re: Winter Discharge Treatment

Richard and Shaun, what else needs to happen on your end, and what is the ETA?

I defer to Liz but believe it is too late to release this today. Would it be possible to release at 11am or noon Eastern tomorrow?

Christie

Christie St. Clair

Office of Public Affairs

Environmental Protection Agency

o: 202-564-2880

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On Sep 22, 2015, at 3:42 PM, "Distefano, Nichole"
<DiStefano.Nichole@epa.gov> wrote:

What is the timing on this?

Nichole Distefano

Deputy Associate Administrator

Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations

Environmental Protection Agency

(202) 564-5200

Distefano.Nichole@epa.gov

From: StClair, Christie

Sent: Tuesday, September 22, 2015 2:47 PM

To: McGrath, Shaun

Cc: Ostrander, David; Purchia, Liz; Braun, Richard; Sandoval, Joni; Way, Steven; Mills, Bethany; Reynolds, Thomas; Ackerman, Joyce; Vaught, Laura; Distefano, Nichole

Subject: Re: Winter Discharge Treatment

Incorporated my edits into Shaun's version with a few additions.

Christie St. Clair

Office of Public Affairs

Environmental Protection Agency

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m: 202-768-5780

On Sep 22, 2015, at 2:42 PM, "McGrath, Shaun"
<McGrath.Shaun@epa.gov> wrote:

My suggested edits...

DRAFT

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) today announced that its prime contractor, ER LLC, will awarded today a subcontract to [NAME OF SUBCONTRACTOR] to continue treating water discharged from the Gold King Mine during winter 2015-16. The portable, temporary treatment system will be located in Gladstone, CO (elevation 10,500ft) and will replace temporary settling ponds constructed by the EPA in August 2015. The schedule calls for the treatment system to be operational by October 14. The transition to the portable treatment system is necessary as local winter temperatures can reach -20F, making it unsafe to manually treat water at the mine site.

This system will treat the approximately 550 gallons per minute (gpm) of water that continue to flow from the mine, including the discharges related to ongoing work in the mine to stabilize conditions. The system is designed to handle up to 1,200 gpm. The objective of the treatment system is to neutralize the mine discharge and remove solids and metals. Although the Gold king Mine discharge is just one of many into Cement Creek, the treatment will remove a portion of the metal loading to Cement Creek. The EPA continues to evaluate data to determine the impact of the Gold King Mine on water quality.

From: Ostrander, David

Sent: Tuesday, September 22, 2015 12:33 PM

To: Purchia, Liz

Cc: StClair, Christie; Braun, Richard; McGrath, Shaun; Sandoval, Joni; Way, Steven; Mills, Bethany; Reynolds, Thomas; Ackerman, Joyce; Vaught, Laura; Distefano, Nichole

Subject: Re: Winter Discharge Treatment

I made another change. Here is my final.

DRAFT

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) today announced that *its prime contractor, ER LLC, will award a subcontract* to continue treating water discharged from the Gold King Mine during winter 2015-16. The portable, temporary treatment system will be located in Gladstone, CO (elevation 10,500ft) and will replace temporary settling ponds constructed by the EPA in August 2015. The schedule calls for the treatment system to be operational by October 14th. The transition to the portable treatment system is necessary as local winter temperatures can reach -20F.

This system will provide for treatment of the approximate 550 gallons per minute (gpm) of water that continue to flow from the mine, including treating the discharges related to ongoing work in the mine to stabilize conditions. The system is designed to handle up to 1,200 gpm. The objective of the treatment system is to provide for neutralization of the mine discharge and the removal of solids and metals. Although this discharge is just one of many into Cement

Creek, the treatment will remove a portion of the metal loading to Cement Creek. The EPA continues to evaluate data to determine the impact of the Gold King Mine on water quality.

Sent from my iPad